

REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing and reconsideration of the application identified in caption, as amended, pursuant to and consistent with 37 C.F.R. §1.111 and in light of the remarks which follow, are respectfully requested.

By the above amendments, claims 1, 11 and 15 have been amended for clarification purposes by deleting the phrase "a circle or an ellipse". Claims 19 and 20 have been amended for clarification purposes to recite a mesh film "consisting essentially of lattice lines defining a plurality of irregular quadrilaterals, irregular pentagons and/or irregular hexagons", and by deleting the phrase "in which random mesh portions are formed". Support for these amendments can be found in the specification at least at page 12, lines 16-20, taken in connection with Figures 1 and 2. Claim 20 has also been amended for clarification purposes by deleting the phrase "and has random mesh portions in the conductive layer, which are formed by intersecting points obtained by shifting lattice lines of a regular lattice pattern from the original position thereof". Claims 9 and 10 have been amended for clarification purposes by reciting the phrase "further comprising", and deleting the phrase "is formed".

In the Official Action, claims 1-14 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over European Patent Document No. 0 910 107 (*EP '107*) in view of Japanese Patent Document No. 2000-114773 (*JP '773*). Claims 15-18 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,295,040 (*Nhan et al*) in view of *EP '107*, and further in view of *JP '773*. Withdrawal of the above rejections is respectfully requested for at least the following reasons.

Independent claim 1 is directed to an electromagnetic-wave-shielding film, comprising a transparent support and a conductive layer comprising a metal thin film in the form of a mesh film, wherein the mesh film comprises lattice lines which define at least a

quadrilateral unit space and another unit space having a shape of a regular pentagon, a pentagon, a regular hexagon, or a hexagon, wherein a unit space area of the mesh film is two fifths or less of an area of a pixel of an image display device.

According to additional aspects, independent claim 11 is directed to a method of producing an electromagnetic-wave-shielding film, and independent claim 15 is directed to an image display device.

EP '107 does not disclose or suggest each feature recited in claims 1, 11 and 15. For example, *EP '107* does not disclose or suggest a mesh film which comprises lattice lines which define at least a quadrilateral unit space and another unit space having a shape of a regular pentagon, a pentagon, a regular hexagon, or a hexagon, as recited in claims 1, 11 and 15. The Official Action at page 2 acknowledges these deficiencies of *EP '107*.

JP '773 fails to cure the above-described deficiencies of *EP '107*. In this regard, the Patent Office has relied on *JP '773* for disclosing "a mesh pattern that comprises lattice lines which define at least a quadrilateral unit space and an elliptical unit space" (Official Action at page 3). However, as discussed above, claims 1, 11 and 15 have been amended to delete the terms "circle" and "ellipse" from the recited list of shapes, and now recite that the mesh film comprises lattice lines which define at least a quadrilateral unit space and another unit space having a shape of a regular pentagon, a pentagon, a regular hexagon, or a hexagon. *JP '773* simply has no disclosure or suggestion of another unit space having a shape of a regular pentagon, a pentagon, a regular hexagon, or a hexagon, as is recited in claims 1, 11 and 15.

Independent claim 19 is directed to an electromagnetic-wave-shielding film, comprising a transparent support and a conductive layer composed of a metal thin film, wherein the conductive layer is composed of a mesh film consisting essentially of lattice lines defining a plurality of irregular quadrilaterals, irregular pentagons and/or irregular hexagons,

wherein a unit space area of the mesh film is two fifths or less of an area of a pixel of an image display device.

According to an additional aspect, independent claim 20 is directed to an image display device.

EP '107 and *JP '773* do not disclose or suggest each feature recited in claims 19 and 20. For example, *EP '107* and *JP '773* fail to disclose or suggest a mesh film consisting essentially of lattice lines defining a plurality of irregular quadrilaterals, irregular pentagons and/or irregular hexagons, as recited in claims 19 and 20. In this regard, as discussed above, the Patent Office has relied on *JP '773* for disclosing a mesh pattern that comprises lattice lines which define at least a quadrilateral unit space and an elliptical unit space. By comparison, claims 19 and 20 now recite that the mesh film consists essentially of lattice lines defining a plurality of irregular quadrilaterals, irregular pentagons and/or irregular hexagons, as recited in claim 19. *EP '107* and *JP '773* simply have no disclosure or suggestion of such a mesh film.

Nhan et al fails to cure the above-described deficiencies of *EP '107* and *JP '773*. For example, *Nhan et al* does not disclose or suggest a mesh film which comprises lattice lines which define at least a quadrilateral unit space and another unit space having a shape of a regular pentagon, a pentagon, a regular hexagon, or a hexagon, as recited in claims 1, 11 and 15. Furthermore, *Nhan et al* does not disclose or suggest a mesh film consisting essentially of lattice lines defining a plurality of irregular quadrilaterals, irregular pentagons and/or irregular hexagons, as recited in claims 19 and 20. In this regard, the Patent Office has acknowledged that *Nhan et al* fails to disclose or suggest the use of an electromagnetic-wave-shielding film (Official Action at page 6).

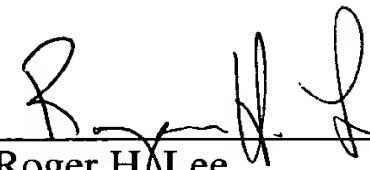
For at least the above reasons, it is apparent that no *prima facie* case of obviousness exists. Accordingly, withdrawal of the above §103(a) rejections is respectfully requested.

From the foregoing, further and favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is believed to be next in order, and such action is earnestly solicited. If there are any questions concerning this paper or the application in general, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: May 18, 2005

By: 

Roger H. Lee
Registration No. 46,317

P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404
(703) 836-6620